

1962

I urge every American who is concerned with the problems of women who work to consider also the many other social, political and civil problems of women which the Commission will investigate. Only by an all-inclusive approach to the problem will we achieve the Commission's assigned purpose.

Today the Nation commemorates the birthday of the Great Emancipator, Abraham Lincoln. In a letter to Horace Greeley, Lincoln stated what I think should be the guideline of the work of the Commission or of any governmental body.

Lincoln wrote: "I shall try to correct errors where shown to be errors, and I shall adopt new views as fast as they shall appear to be true views."

By adopting this approach to its work the Commission cannot fail but to make a great contribution to our Nation.

#### REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The President, Mr. Secretary, ladies and gentlemen, I want to express my thanks to all of you for an important assignment. We have established this Commission for two reasons. One is for my own self-protection. (Laughter). Every 2 or 3 weeks Mrs. May Craig asks me what I am doing for women.

The other reason is because this is a matter of great national importance—and of international importance. One-third of our working force are women. They have a primary obligation to their families and to their homes but they also—their work makes it possible to maintain that home and that family in many cases. We want to make sure that they are able to move ahead and perform their functions without any discrimination by law or by implication and we want that in the Government and stimulus through Mrs. Peterson and the Secretary and the Civil Service Commission we have attempted to make it possible for every woman to receive compensation and receive a response from her work completely in accord and with the work which she does. We want that to be true legally. We think that this Commission could usefully examine laws across the country which may adversely affect the rights of women. We want to examine this question of their compensation and whether they are receiving compensation in accordance with the service they render, whether they are being protected in their promotion rights and all the rest. The Commission should examine the things that are right and things that are wrong. So they are very interdependent. Mrs. Roosevelt has once again offered to serve the country in this important job and I am glad that all of you here who are leaders in this country have been willing to give your time to it. I can't imagine any more important assignment—not merely for women, but for Members of Congress, organized labor, women's organizations themselves, religious groups and all the rest. I think that this is a job that we ought to do. So we look forward very eagerly to your results and I promise you that we are strongly behind you in all your work.

#### RESOLUTION BY WASHINGTON COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL SUPPORTS HIGHER POSTAL RATES

Mrs. NEUBERGER, Mr. President, the Washington County Labor Council, AFL-CIO, representing organized labor in one of the major counties of my State, has in a recent meeting strongly endorsed legislation to increase postal rates.

More and more people are realizing that this postal deficit should be paid by the mail users rather than through higher taxes collected from the general public or through deficit financing.

As the Washington County Labor Council points out, legislation which has already passed the House of Representatives provides substantial increases in second and third class mail rates. These increases amount to more than \$300 million annually in additional revenue.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed as this point in the Record a letter from Mr. Russell E. Smith, president of the Washington County Labor Council, together with an accompanying resolution adopted by the council January 24, 1962 supporting postal rate legislation.

There being no objection the letter and resolution were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

WASHINGTON COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL,  
FOREST GROVE, OREGON, January 27, 1962.  
Hon. MAURICE HARRINGTON,  
The U.S. Senate,  
Senate Office Building,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HARRINGTON: Enclosed you will find a resolution passed by the Washington County Labor Council at our last regular meeting, January 24, 1962.

Sincerely yours,  
RUSSELL E. SMITH,  
President.

#### RESOLUTION OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL

Whereas the House of Representatives has passed legislation increasing postal rates by \$300 million; and

Whereas this increase will materially help to balance the budget; and

Whereas appreciable percentage of the increase will be collected from the many subsidized rates in the second and third class mail; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Washington County Labor Council respectfully request the Senators from Oregon to vote for and over for the passage of this legislation in the U.S. Senate and to inform

Members that copies of this resolution be mailed to Senators Warren, McGowan and Maurine HARRINGTON and to the press in Washington County.

#### WHERE THE MISSILE GAP WENT

Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. President, in the February 18 issue of the Reporter, my distinguished colleague from Missouri (Mr. SYMINGTON) writes on "Where the Missile Gap Went."

In a most enlightening article on this subject Senator SYMINGTON raises some disturbing questions about the manner in which we have estimated Soviet missile strength. He concludes by pointing out that the questions as to which estimates are correct must be adequately answered before we take to dancing in the streets to celebrate the disappearance of the missile gap.

Senator SYMINGTON states the case of this missile gap with great clarity. The article is well worth the attention of my colleagues and I am unanimous consent that it be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

#### WHERE THE MISSILE GAP WENT

(By Senator BRUCE SYMINGTON)

The term "missile gap," so far as I know, was coined by a well-known newspaperman several years ago. It meant that the Russians were ahead of us in developing and building intercontinental ballistic missiles, which they would have in significant numbers before we did. It was thought that this situation would continue for a long time because this country had failed to put enough effort into developing long-range ballistic missiles. But the missile gap, from the day it became a matter of public concern, had an unmistakable way of narrowing the playing field and occasionally vanishing altogether.

Sometimes this was accomplished simply by official pronouncements. Sometimes, as in 1955, it was accomplished by adding unannounced numbers to our predicted stockpile of ICBMs while making no compensating addition to the predicted Soviet stockpile. Needless to say, the missile gap could not be so easily disposed of. Former Vice President Nixon's assurance in 1959 that the gap was narrowing was followed by former CIA Director Allen Dulles' testimony in 1960 that the Soviets were widening their lead.

In recent months, however, the missile gap appears to have been done away with once and for all. Not only is there no gap, we are informed by the press, but there never was one, and those who said there was were guilty at best of hallucination and at worst of something like bad faith. Considering the missile gap to be the "finko of synthetic issues" where it always belonged, a New York Times editorial not long ago declared, "The same forces and the same congressional and journalistic mouthpieces who manufactured an alleged bomber gap in the 1950's sponsored, and indeed invented, the alleged missile gap in the 1960's." A somewhat unusual rewriting of history was provided by William Strieder in the Christian Science Monitor. "The old missile gap never existed except in speculation and in politics," he wrote, "reminding this claim with the information that presidential Candidate Kennedy, 'with an eye to accuracy, referred very sparingly to the missile gap. What he mainly discussed in his campaign speech to the American Legion convention at Miami Beach, October 15, 1960, and elsewhere, was what might be termed the vulnerability gap.' By the way, Mr. Kennedy warned of the missile gap in no less than nine campaign speeches just among those which have been reprinted to the American Legion convention in Miami Beach, he in fact quoted Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor's statement, 'We are now threatened with a missile gap that leaves us in a position of potentially grave danger.'"

Whether or not there was a missile gap, it is clear that President Kennedy believed there was. So for that matter did former Secretaries of Defense McNamara and Gates and Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, among others. Relying on authoritative sources, so did I. Was a possible Soviet missile lead in the early 1960's a legitimate matter of concern, was it acknowledged by the New York Times? "Are we doing all that we can do or should we do it better that the missile gap never becomes reality?" An editorial asked in 1960. This is obviously a key question of our times. There can be little doubt that it will be the obligation of the new Congress to explore this question thoroughly.

Surely the question we should be asking ourselves now is why so many of those who believed there was a missile gap have changed their minds.

#### MOVING THE GOALPOSTS

The missile gap was not invented by columnists and politicians. It was in-

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